1	2	3
3.	North Tripura	175
4.	Dholai	61
5.	Portion of West Tripura	59
	TOTAL:	658
III.	*Sikkim (West Bengal)*	
	North	21
	East	94
	West	31
	South	51
	TOTAL:	197
	GRAND TOTAL:	6637

Statement-III

Number of villages without Post Office in North East Region as on 31-3-2007

Sl. No.	Name of Circles in NER	Total No. of villages (Inhabited) without Post Office
1.	Assam	22539
2.	North East Arunachal Pradesh	3388
	Manipur	1748
	Meghalaya	5420
	Mizoram	294
	Nagaland	917
	Tripura	198
3.	Sikkim (West Bengal)	250
	TOTAL:	34754

Mobile number portability

*205. SHRI DARA SINGH:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to introduce a Mobile Number Portability (MNP) in the four Major metros namely Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata;

(b) whether number portability would be enabled by a neutral party which would maintain common database of numbers;

(c) to what extent this proposed move, including fee likely to be levied for witching over to another operator while retaining a mobile number, etc. would be "pro-choice" and "pro-customer", and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) On 12.11.2007, Government has in-principle accepted the recommendation dated 08.03.2006 of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on Mobile Number Portability (MNP) and has decided to introduce Mobile Number Portability in the four metro cities namely Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata in the initial phase.

All mobile telephone service providers will implement the Mobile Number Portability by establishing logically centralized database through a neutral third party.

Mobile Number Portability will enable a mobile subscriber to change his service provider within the same service area based on his choice, while retaining his mobile number. Besides this, MNP will increase the level of competition between service providers for retaining their subscriber resulting in better customer services, network coverage, and service quality.

TRAI issues Telecom Tariff Orders (TTOs) from time to time. Therefore, the fee likely to be levied on the customer for availing MNP facility will be decided by TRAI in due course of time.

Four-laning of Hyderabad-Vijayawada section

*206. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Road Safety Forum has suggested urgent measures to complete the four-laning of the Hyderabad-Vijayawada section;

(b) the reasons for delay in this matter;

(c) whether it is a fact that private vested interests have prevailed over National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to delay development of this section;

(d) whether safety measures would be introduced immediately on this section; and

(e) the schedule of work on this section by NHAI and the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) No such reference has been received from the Road Safety Forum. The project for four-laning of Hyderabad-Vijayawada section of NH-9 from km 40/0 to 221/500 is a part of National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-III. It has been decided to take up 12,109 km length of National Highways under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode